



Session #3: *Preaching Jesus* – Tyler Jones **Lead Pastor, Vintage21 Church**

Why spend an hour convincing you that preaching is a biblical mandate?

Why we preach

- 1) Preaching because Jesus preached
- 2) Preaching Jesus
- 3) Preaching with God's authority
- 4) Preaching through the power of the Spirit
- 5) Preaching as mission

"Give me a hundred men who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God, and such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of God on earth." John Wesley

1. Preaching because Jesus preached

The movement away from preaching

- Preaching is an ineffective and outdated form of communication
- Monologue is inauthentic to postmoderns
- Dialogue is in style
- Story sharing is in style

Scripture has not left this option of moving away from preaching open to us.

Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. Luke 8:1

Kerusso (Strong's #2784)—to Proclaim: to be a herald, as a public crier of divine truth
On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"...From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed Him.
John 6:60 & 66

Preaching is the hardest thing you will do in church planting. Mark Driscoll

2. Preaching Jesus

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

The Gospel as...

- Events
- Identity
- Administration

Goals of preaching

- Honor Christ
- Love & Conviction
- Transformation

3. Preaching with Authority

And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. Nehemiah 8:1-8

They do not see clearly the unique and supernatural nature of preaching because they do not see clearly the unique and supernatural nature of Holy Scripture. Bruce Bickel

The value of expository preaching and the myth of relevance

Preaching through books of the bible:

- Depth
- Returnability
- The hard things
- The soul of the preacher

4. Preaching through the power of the Spirit

The hard work of the preacher

- 30 uncommitted weirdos
- Avoiding normalcy

It is no small matter to stand up in the face of a congregation and deliver a message of salvation or damnation, as from the living God, in the name of our Redeemer. It is no easy matter to speak so plain, that the ignorant may understand, and so seriously that the deadest hearts may feel us; and so convincingly, that contradiction cavilers may be silenced. Richard Baxter

How can we allow the Spirit to move in and through our preaching?



For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylonia, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the good hand of his God was on him. For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel. Ezra 7:9-10

Inviting *the good hand of God* to be on you:

- Seek the Lord in prayer
- Examine yourself in repentance and apply the gospel
- Let the Text do its work

Preparation & Scheduling: Questions to consider

- When is your most creative time?
- When is your most reflective time?
- When do you study best?
- When is a good time to do the administration of preaching?

5. Preaching as Mission

"Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.' Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. Acts 2:29-41

Resources

Light and Heat: The Puritan View of the Pulpit, Bruce Bickel
Christ-Centered Preaching, Bryan Chapell
The Sermon as Symphony, Mike Graves
Preachers and Preaching, Martyn Lloyd-Jones
Apologetic Preaching, Craig Loscalzo
The Homiletical Plot, Eugene Lowry
The Art of Prophesying, William Perkins
The Supremacy of God in Preaching, John Piper
Biblical Preaching, Haddon Robinson
Feed My Sheep, Soli Deo Gloria
Refining Your Style: Learning from Respected Communicators by Dave Stone
Preaching Between Two Worlds, John Stott



Tyler Jones

Tyler and his wife Kimberly moved to the Raleigh area in 1997 after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He worked with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at North Carolina State five years before starting Vintage21. After attending many churches in the area, Tyler and Kimberly noticed an absence of people in the 20-40 age group. After much prayer and guidance, they felt God's call to begin a church with people of that age group in mind. Vintage21 began five years ago with a small group of people, and has been growing ever since. Kimberly is a pharmaceutical doctor, and they have two daughters.